The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) **A computer implemented** method of reporting a progress of an executing process **in a computer**, comprising:

while the process is executing, generating a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language, the progress ~~reporting language~~ **record** indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process, **wherein the generated progress record is self-defining of the progress of the executing process, without reference to a characterization of the process outside the progress record**; and

providing the progress [[report]] **record** to a user interface mechanism capable of interpreting the progress reporting language **in which the progress record has been generated**, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating [[a]] **the progress report in a** user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

2. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein generating a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language comprises

generating a step identifier **in the progress record** identifying a step in the process and a step description associated with the step identifier,

the step description being adapted for display by the user interface mechanism.

3. (original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the step is to be performed in the future.

4. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein generating a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language further comprises:

generating a begin indicator **in the progress record** indicating that execution of a step in the process identified by the step identifier is beginning.

5. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein generating a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language comprises:

2

generating a progress indicator **in the progress record** indicating the progress of one of the steps in the executing process.

6. (original) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the progress indicator indicates a percentage of completion of the step of the executing process.

7. (original) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the progress indicator comprises one or more values indicating the progress of the step of the executing process.

8. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein generating a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language further comprises:

generating a progress indicator **in the progress record** associated with the step identifier indicating the progress of a step identified by the step identifier.

9. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein generating a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language comprises:

providing a completion indicator **in the progress record** indicating that execution of the step identified by the step identifier has completed.

10. (currently amended) A **computer-implemented** method of providing a progress **report** associated with an executing process **in a computer**, comprising:

while the process is executing, receiving a progress **record** [[report]] in a progress reporting language, the progress [[reporting language]] **record** indicating **in the progress reporting language** a progress of one or more steps in the executing process, **wherein the progress record is self-defining of the progress of the process, without reference to a characterization of the executing process outside the progress record**;

ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress [[report]] **record**; and

generating **the progress report in** a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

11. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the progress ~~reporting language~~ **record** comprises a step identifier identifying a step in the process and a step description associated with the step identifier, the step description being adapted for display

3

by the user interface mechanism.

12. (original) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the step is to be performed in the future.

13. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the progress ~~reporting language~~ <u>record</u> comprises a begin indicator indicating that execution of a step in the process identified by the step identifier is beginning.

14. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the progress ~~reporting language~~ <u>record</u> comprises a progress indicator indicating the progress of one of the steps in the executing process.

15. (original) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the progress indicator indicates a percentage of completion of the step of the executing progress.

16. (original) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the progress indicator comprises one or more values indicating the progress of the step of the executing process.

17. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the progress ~~reporting language~~ <u>record</u> comprises a progress indicator associated with the step identifier indicating the progress of a step identified by the step identifier.

18. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the progress ~~reporting language~~ <u>record</u> further comprises a completion indicator indicating that execution of the step identified by the step identifier has completed.

19. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing thereon instructions for <u>a</u> <u>computer to report</u> ~~reporting~~ a progress of an executing process <u>in the computer</u>, comprising:

instructions for <u>the computer to generate</u> ~~generating~~ a progress <u>record</u> [[report]] in a progress reporting language, the progress ~~reporting language~~ <u>record</u> indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process, <u>wherein the generated progress record is</u>

4

self-defining of the progress of the executing process, without reference to a characterization of the process outside the progress record; and

instructions for providing the progress [[report]] **record** to a user interface mechanism capable of interpreting the progress reporting language **in which the progress record has been generated**, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating [[a]] **the progress report in a** user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

20. (currently amended) **A** ~~An apparatus~~ **computer system** for reporting a progress of an executing process, comprising:

means for**, while the process is executing,** generating a progress [[report]] **record** in a progress reporting language, the progress ~~reporting language~~ **record** indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process**, wherein the generated progress record is self-defining of the progress of the executing process, without reference to a characterization of the process outside the progress record**; and

means for providing the progress [[report]] **record** to a user interface mechanism capable of interpreting the progress reporting language **in which the progress record has been generated**, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating [[a]] **the progress report in a** user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

21. (currently amended) An apparatus for reporting a progress of an executing process, comprising:

a processor; and a memory, at least one of the processor and the memory being adapted for: generating a progress [[report]] **record** in a progress reporting language, the progress ~~reporting language~~ **record** indicating a progress of one or more steps in the executing process**, wherein the generated progress record is self-defining of a progress report of the process, without reference to a characterization of the process outside the progress record**; and

providing the progress report to a user interface mechanism capable of interpreting the progress reporting language, the user interface mechanism adapted for generating a user interface indicating the progress of the one or more steps in the executing process.

5

22. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing thereon instructions for <u>a</u> <u>computer to provide</u> <s>providing</s> a progress associated with an executing process, comprising:

instructions for<u>, while the process is executing,</u> receiving a progress [[report]] <u>record</u> in a progress reporting language, the progress <s>reporting language</s> <u>record</u> indicating <u>in the</u> <u>progress reporting language</u> a progress of one or more steps in the executing process; <u>wherein the progress record is self-defining of the progress of the process, without</u> <u>reference to a characterization of the executing process outside the progress record,</u>

instructions for ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress report; and

instructions for generating <u>the progress report in</u> a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

23. (currently amended) <u>A computer system</u> <s>An apparatus</s> for providing a progress <u>report</u> associated with an executing process <u>in the computer system</u>, comprising:

means for<u>, while the process is executing,</u> receiving a progress [[report]] <u>record</u> in a progress reporting language, the progress <s>reporting language</s> <u>record</u> indicating <u>in the</u> <u>progress reporting language</u> a progress of one or more steps in the executing process, <u>wherein the progress record is self-defining of the progress of the process, without</u> <u>reference to a characterization of the executing process outside the progress record</u>;

means for ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress [[report]] <u>record</u>; and

means for generating <u>the progress report in</u> a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

24. (currently amended) An apparatus for providing a progress <u>report</u> associated with an executing process, comprising:

a processor; and a memory, at least one of the processor and the memory being adapted for:

receiving a progress [[report]] <u>record</u> in a progress reporting language, the progress <s>reporting language</s> <u>record</u> indicating <u>in the progress reporting language</u> a progress of one or more steps in the executing process, <u>wherein the progress record is self-defining</u> <u>of the progress of the process, without reference to a characterization of the</u> <u>executing process outside the progress record</u>;

6

ascertaining the progress of the steps in the executing process from the progress [[report]] **record**; and

generating **the progress report in** a user interface indicating the progress of the steps in the executing process.

7